(b) if so, the number of personnel so identified and transferred to other posts, so far; and

(c) the steps taken to emphasise the aspects of courtesy and sensitivity in pre-induction training programmes of immigration staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have, in principle, decided to take over immigration work at major International Airports/check posts from the State Governments.

The process of transferring personnel who are identified as not being found temperamentally suitably for such duties is an ongoing and continuous process.

Pre-induction training and refresher courses are regularly imparted to the immigration officials to sensitize them and to handle passengers with courtesy and sensitivity.

Killing of persons in Nadia, West Bengal

2207. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two persons were shot dead by B.S.F. on 1st January, 2003 at Bedberia village, under Chapara P.S. of Nadia District, West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. on 1st January, 2003, BSF troops deployed on BOP Haridaypur observed a group of miscreants trying to cross over from India to Bangladesh along with cattle. On being challenged, miscreants suddenly assaulted the BSF troops with lethal weapons injuring one of the BSF Constables and snatched his weapon. When these miscreants were fleeing away towards Indian village Badberia with snatched weapon, BSF troops resorted to firing at them which resulted in killing of two micreants on the spot. On thorough search of the area two cattle were recovered. The snatched weapon with 20 rounds was later recovered by State Police and handled over to BSF on 5th March, 2003.